

Notes from Upper Rio Grande Basin Water Operations Review Interdisciplinary NEPA Team Meeting; March 14, 2002; 1:00 PM; Corps of Engineers Conference Room, Albuquerque

In Attendance:

Neal Ackerly, Dos Rios/Corps

Jon Kehmeier, SWCA/NMISC

Scott Anderholm, USGS

Steve Kolk, USBR

Ellen Dietrich, SAIC/Corps

Clay Mathers, Corps

Darrell Eidson, Corps

Claudia Oakes, SWCA/NMISC

Richard Fike, Corps

Chris Perez, USFWS

Don Gallegos, Corps

Garret Ross, USBR

Susan Goodan, SAIC/Corps




Gail Stockton, Corps

Debbie Hathaway, SSPA/NMISC

Julie Tsatsaros, NMED/SWQB

- ❖ Gail Stockton opened the meeting and asked the members to review the notes from the February meeting and provide any edits to her by the end of the meeting.
- ❖ The Action Items from the last meeting were reviewed.
 - Form for requesting data from tribes and pueblos
 - The form has been developed and is available from Team Link. Once completed it should be submitted to Neal Ackerly of the Cultural Resources Technical Team.
 - According to Neal, the last request for information from a pueblo (from the Aquatic Systems Technical Team) took 2 months to get a response. He cautioned that this timeframe is probably a minimum, so teams should allow plenty of time when submitting requests.
 - Susan Goodan asked if each data request must use a separate form. After some discussion, it was decided that the location of the data request would determine the number of forms to use. If a technical team is requesting different information for the same geographical area and from the same tribe, a single form can be completed.
 - Discussion of water rights
 - This discussion will not be included in the EIS. The notes will be corrected to reflect that this discussion was not intended to go into the Affected Environment section, but in the project summary.
 - Review of data to be collected by technical teams
 - Steve Kolk distributed a list prepared by Deb Callahan of the GIS Technical Team that summarizes the known GIS layers in the basin, with emphasis on aerial photography. **He requested that technical team members review and update this list by notifying a Project Manager.** It will be used to help the Project Managers identify additional coverages needed or aerial photography that can be obtained.
 - The Corps is planning to fund a flight in mid-spring to get new photography from Abiquiu Reservoir to the confluence with the Rio Grande.



- Clay Mathers asked that, when updating the list, technical team members note what GIS data they plan to obtain and how they plan to use them.
 - Additions suggested include National Wetlands Inventory coverages and the water quality data compiled by the Water Quality Technical Team. The Water Quality Technical Team distributed a list of the sampling data that they have entered into a database. This list can be used as a model for other technical teams to follow in listing their data.
 - Technical teams should also identify other data acquired and needed, possibly at a future meeting and on a separate list.
 - Claudia Oakes asked if URGWOM and Flo-2D would soon be ready to run the pilot information for Reach 14.
 - Gail responded that Flo-2D would be ready within a few weeks to run selected flows from Cochiti to Elephant Butte. This should be used to determine the quality and the resolution of the output data so technical teams can see how they can be used.
 - The URGWOM Planning Model will be ready for use this summer.
 - ❖ The majority of the meeting was used for each technical team to complete the GIS worksheets that show a sketch of the data needed, with descriptions of the type of data and their intended uses. Additional forms are available on Team Link. This session was led by Clay, who demonstrated how to fill out the sheets by reviewing some previously completed from several teams.
 - Reasons for completing these sheets include:
 - Informing the GIS Technical Team of what data will be needed and for what purpose;
 - Identifying where data quality is variable or incomplete to help teams determine in advance how to handle this problem;
 - Helping to select the appropriate model or analysis method to be used;
 - Showing other technical teams what data will be used, how it will be collected, so they can consider whether they want to share information.
-  ➤ **Clay will scan the large sheets and provide them to all technical teams for review.**
- ❖ Other items:
 -  ➤ **Steve requested that each technical team submit an updated roster of team members to him as soon as possible.**
 - The next public meetings to discuss the draft alternatives will be held in Albuquerque at the Corps on March 19 and in Santa Fe at the new Game and Fish headquarters on March 20. Attendance at these meetings is up to the discretion of each technical team.
 -  ➤ **Don Gallegos is setting up a tour of the Abiquiu Dam facilities for the morning of April 17 at 10:00 a.m. He requested that technical team members notify him by April 1 if they want to attend.**
- ❖ The next meeting of the URGWOPS ID NEPA Team will be held on April 11 at 1:00 p.m. at the Corps.